

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-21 are pending in this case. Claims 1, 12, and 15 are amended and Claim 22 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer by the present amendment. Amended Claims 1, 12, and 15 are supported by, for example, the specification at paragraphs 140 and 141 of the publication. Thus, no new matter is added. Further, as the present amendment only incorporates the subject matter previously considered Claim 22 into Claims 1, 12, and 15, the present amendment should be entered and considered after final rejection.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-18 and 20-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Vaudreuil (U.S. Patent No. 5,740,230); and Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Vaudreuil in view of Yokomizo (U.S. Patent No. 6,163,796).

With regard to the rejection of Claims 1, 12, and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Vaudreuil, that rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended independent Claim 1 recites in part:

a plurality of message gateways, each message gateway being configured to receive and transmit over at least one dedicated transfer medium, and
a message broker connected to the message gateways and being provided with a client database,
wherein a first message gateway receives a message from a sending client over a first transfer medium and transmits the message or information extracted thereof to the message broker, the message including meta information and content,
the message broker encrypts the message with a receiver key that is valid only for an intended receiver and a given message.

With regard to Claim 22, the outstanding Office Action cited column 28, line 63 to column 29, line 20 of Vaudreuil as describing this feature. However, this portion of Vaudreuil describes that a public key cryptographic system is used to encrypt messages. This

requires that the public key be created, ***maintained***, and accessed, as described at column 29, lines 14-20 of Vaudreuil. Thus, as Vaudreuil clearly describes that public keys are used multiple times, as they need to be maintained, Vaudreuil not only fails to describe unique receiver keys ***valid only for an intended receiver and a given message***, but in fact teaches to the contrary. It is respectfully submitted that Vaudreuil does not in any way describe a device that encrypts messages with unique receiver keys ***valid only for an intended receiver and a given message***. Accordingly, Vaudreuil does not teach or suggest “a message broker” as defined in amended Claim 1. Consequently, it is respectfully submitted that amended Claim 1 (and Claims 2-11 dependent therefrom) is not anticipated by Vaudreuil and is patentable thereover.

Amended independent Claims 12 and 15 also recite similar elements to Claim 1. It is respectfully submitted that amended Claims 12 and 15 (and Claims 13, 14, and 16-21 dependent therefrom) are patentable over Vaudreuil for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 1.

With regard to the rejection of Claim 19 as unpatentable over Vaudreuil in view of Yokomizo, it is noted that Claim 19 is dependent from Claim 15, and thus is believed to be patentable for at least the reasons discussed above. Further, it is respectfully submitted that Yokomizo does not cure any of the above-noted deficiencies of Vaudreuil. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 19 is patentable over Vaudreuil in view of Yokomizo.

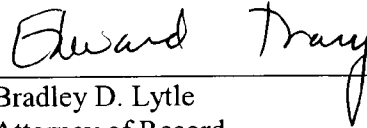
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Accordingly, the pending claims are believed to be in condition for formal allowance.

An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bradley D. Lytle", is written over a horizontal line.

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